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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/438,247	11/12/1999	JUNJI NISHIGAKI	15162/01290	9067

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EXAMINER

KASSA, YOSEF

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/438,247

Applicant(s)

NISHIGAKI ET AL.

Examiner

YOSEF KASSA

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hino et al (5,117,468).

With regard to claim 1, Hino et al discloses a plurality of processors processing input image data (see col. 2, lines 21-25, a plurality of local image extracting circuits of extracting a plurality of pixel data), in parallel with each other and outputting processed said image data (see col. 2, lines 35-39, the local image reconstruction means in parallel, to deliver a plurality of modified pixel data); and an address memory storing address information of image data processed by each of plurality of processors (see col. 2, lines 38-46, memory means for storing image data which has been subjected to image processing).

With regard to claim 2, an image memory storing image data output from plurality of processors (see col. 2, 42-46), and read means reading image data from image memory on the basis of address information stored in address memory (col. 2, lines 45-47).

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With regard to claim 3, an image memory storing said image data output from plurality of processors along the sequence of addresses on the basis of address information stored in said address memory (see col. 2, lines 42-47).

With regard to claim 4, input means inputting image data subjected to processing in synchronization with a first external device, and output means outputting image data processed in plurality of processors and address information stored in address memory in synchronization with a second external device (see col. 5, lines 5-16).

With regard to claim 5, plurality of processors also output arrangement information corresponding to processed said data when outputting said data (see col. 2, lines 38-41).

With regard to claim 6, a plurality of processors performing prescribed processing on a plurality of data divided from single image data respectively (see col. 2, lines 21-25, extracting a plurality of pixel data having a predetermined positional relation on a two-dimensional original image); a first memory storing arrangement information in original image data for plurality of divided data (see col. 2, lines 42-50); and a controller restoring a single image from plurality of data processed in plurality of processors in accordance with arrangement information (see col. 2, lines 52-59, the local image reconstruction means, the local image processing circuits and first and second image data transfer means are incorporated in, for example, a single image processor, and a control processor).

With regard to claim 7, including a second memory storing data processed in plurality of processors, wherein controller reacts data from second memory in sequence along arrangement information and restores image (see col. 2, lines 38-46).

With regard to claim 8, including an image memory, wherein controller stores processed data in positions of image memory corresponding to arrangement information (see col. 2, lines 21-26).

With regard to claim 9, first memory is provided in correspondence to each of plurality of processors (see col. 2, lines 38-40).

With regard to claim 10, plurality of processors also output arrangement information corresponding to processed data when outputting data (see col. 2, lines 40-46).

Claim 11 is rejected the same as claim 6. Thus, argument analogous to that presented above for claim 6 is applicable to claim 11.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent No. (5,758,043) Takizawa et al discloses image processing method and apparatus. US Patent No. (5,109,281) Kobori et al discloses video printer with separately stored digital signals printed in separate areas to from a print of multiple images. US Patent No. (5,715,436) Kawai et al discloses image processing LSI circuit with image preprocessing, feature extraction and matching.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOSEF KASSA whose telephone number is (703) 306-5918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM.

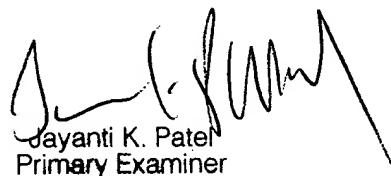
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BHAVESH MEHTA can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314 for regular communication and (703) 872-9314 for after Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631. The group receptionist number for TC 2600 is (703) 305-4700.

PATENT EXAMINER

Yosef Kassa

01/01/03.



Jayanti K. Patel
Primary Examiner